

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces met in a closed session and approved for full committee consideration, those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2008.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee met in closed session to make up proposed legislation authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again on tomorrow.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 142 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

U.S. ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH CHINA

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Security and International Trade and Finance concluded a hearing to examine United States economic relations with China, focusing on strategies and options on exchange rates and market access, after receiving testimony from Morris Goldstein, Peterson Institute for International Economics, Fairfax, Virginia; Robert S. Nichols, Financial Services Forum, and David A. Hartquist, China Currency Coalition, both of Washington, D.C.; Patrick A. Mulloy, George Mason University School of Law, Alexandria, Virginia, former Member, U.S. China Economic and Security Review Commission; and John W. Nolan, Steel Dynamics, Inc., Fort Wayne, Indiana.

COMMUNICATIONS, TAXATION AND FEDERALISM

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine communications, taxation and federalism, focusing on the internet access tax moratorium and its impact on state and local government revenues, after receiving testimony from Senators Wyden and Enzi; Representative Eshoo; James R. White, Director, Tax Issues, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office; David C. Quam, National Governors Association, and Harley T. Duncan, Federation of Tax Administrators, both of Washington, D.C.; Annabelle Canning, Verizon Communications, Philadelphia,

Pennsylvania; and Jeff Dirksen, National Taxpayers Union, Alexandria, Virginia.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following items:

S. Con. Res. 6, expressing the sense of Congress that the National Museum of Wildlife Art, located in Jackson, Wyoming, should be designated as the “National Museum of Wildlife Art of the United States”;

S. 126, to modify the boundary of Mesa Verde National Park, with an amendment;

S. 175, to provide for a feasibility study of alternatives to augment the water supplies of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District and cities served by the District, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 324, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources in the State of New Mexico;

S. 542, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct feasibility studies to address certain water shortages within the Snake, Boise, and Payette River systems in the State of Idaho;

S. 553, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Eightmile River in the State of Connecticut as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System;

S. 580, to amend the National Trails System Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to update the feasibility and suitability studies of four national historic trails;

S. 686, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historical Trail;

S. 797, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Star-Spangled Banner Trail in the States of Maryland and Virginia and the District of Columbia as a National Historic Trail, with amendments;

S. 890, to provide for certain administrative and support services for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, with amendments;

S. 1037, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assist in the planning, design, and construction of the Tumalo Irrigation District Water Conservation Project in Deschutes County, Oregon;

S. 1110, to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to provide for the conjunctive use of surface and ground water in Juab County, Utah;

S. 1139, to establish the National Landscape Conservation System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1152, to promote wildland firefighter safety, with an amendment;

H.R. 161, to adjust the boundary of the Minidoka Internment National Monument to include the Nidoto Nai Yoni Memorial in Bainbridge Island, Washington, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 235, to allow for the renegotiation of the payment schedule of contracts between the Secretary of the Interior and the Redwood Valley County Water District;

H.R. 247, to designate a Forest Service trail at Waldo Lake in the Willamette National Forest in the State of Oregon as a national recreation trail in honor of Jim Weaver, a former Member of the House of Representatives;

H.R. 276, to designate the Piedras Blancas Light Station and the surrounding public land as an Outstanding Natural Area to be administered as a part of the National Landscape Conservation System;

H.R. 376, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including the battlefields and related sites of the First and Second Battles of Newtonia, Missouri, during the Civil War as part of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield or designating the battlefields and related sites as a separate unit of the National Park System;

H.R. 482, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer ownership of the American River Pump Station Project;

H.R. 497, to authorize the Marion Park Project, a committee of the Palmetto Conservation Foundation, to establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia, and its environs to honor Brigadier General Francis Marion;

H.R. 512, to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of the National Museum of the American Latino to develop a plan of action for the establishment and maintenance of a National Museum of the American Latino in Washington, DC;

H.R. 658, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements to protect natural resources of units of the National Park System through collaborative efforts on land inside and outside of units of the National Park System;

H.R. 839, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility of enlarging the Arthur V. Watkins Dam Weber Basin Project, Utah, to provide additional water for the Weber Basin Project to fulfill the purposes for which that project was authorized;

H.R. 866, to enhance ecosystem protection and the range of outdoor opportunities protected by statute in the Skykomish River valley of the State of

Washington by designating certain lower-elevation Federal lands as wilderness;

H.R. 902, to facilitate the use for irrigation and other purposes of water produced in connection with development of energy resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 1047, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum located in St. Louis, Missouri, as a unit of the National Park System; and

The nominations of Joseph Timothy Kelliher, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and R. Lyle Laverty, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife.

FUNDING SOCIAL SECURITY'S ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded hearings to examine funding Social Security's administrative costs, focusing on disability benefits and the claims process, after receiving testimony from Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner, Social Security Administration; Nancy G. Shor, National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives (NOSSCR), Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey; Richard E. Warsinskey, National Council of Social Security Management Associations, Inc., Washington, DC; and Chuck Schimmels, National Association of Disability Examiners, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

VIOLENT CRIME

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs concluded a hearing to examine rising crime in the United States, focusing on the federal role in helping communities prevent and respond to violent crime, including S. 368, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, after receiving testimony from Mark Epley, Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice; Mayor Douglas H. Palmer, Trenton, New Jersey, on behalf of the United States Conference of Mayors; Ted Kamatchus, Marshall County, Marshalltown, Iowa, on behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association; Thomas J. Nee, National Association of Police Organizations, and James Alan Fox, Northeastern University, both of Boston, Massachusetts; Rick S. Gregory, New Castle County Police Department, New Castle, Delaware; and Russell B. Laine, Algonquin Police Department, Algonquin, Illinois, on behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

WASHINGTON, DC: VOTER REPRESENTATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1257, to provide the District of Columbia a voting seat and the State of Utah an additional seat in the House of Representatives, and H.R. 1905, to provide for the treatment of the District of Columbia as a Congressional district for purposes of representation in the House of Representatives, focusing on ending taxation without representation, after receiving testimony from Representatives Cannon and Norton; John P. Elwood, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice; Patricia Wald, former Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit; Kenneth R. Thomas, Legislative Attorney, American Law Division, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Utah Attorney General Mark L. Shurtleff, Salt Lake City; Jonathan Turley, George Washington University Law School, and Richard B. Bress, Latham and Watkins LLP, both of Washington, DC9y008; and Charles J. Ogletree, Jr., Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine health care legislation, after receiving testimony from Gerald M. Cross, Acting Principal Deputy, Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Health; Carl Blake, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Jerry Reed, Suicide Prevention Action Network USA, and Dennis M. Cullinan, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, all of Washington, D.C.; Joy J. Ilem, Disabled American Veterans, Cold Spring, Kentucky; Shannon Middleton, American Legion, Indianapolis, Indiana; Bernard Edelman, Vietnam Veterans of America, Silver Spring, Maryland; Meredith Beck, Wounded Warrior Project, New York, New York; and John Booss, American Academy of Neurology, Saint Paul, Minnesota.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill authorizing funds for fiscal year 2008 for the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 23 public bills, 2447–2469; and 9 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 155–157; and H. Res. 431–436 were introduced. **Pages H5723–24**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5724–26**

Reports Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 2199, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide certain improvements in the treatment of individuals with traumatic brain injuries, with amendments (H. Rept. 110–166).

H. Res. 437, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2317) to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require registered lobbyists to file quarterly reports on contributions bundled for certain recipients and providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2316) to provide more rigorous requirements with respect to disclosure and enforcement of lobbying laws and regulations (H. Rept. 110–167); and

H. Res. 438, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2206) making

emergency supplemental appropriations and additional supplemental appropriations for agricultural and other emergency assistance for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007 (H. Rept. 110–168).

Pages H5722–23

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Chaplain Marc Unger, 1–184th Infantry, California Army National Guard, Exeter, California.

Page H5625

Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy—Appointment: The Speaker announced her appointment of the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Representatives Hinchey, Hall (NY), McHugh, and Tiahrt.

Page H5625

Point of Personal Privilege: Representative Kucinich rose to a point of personal privilege and was recognized.

Pages H5638–44

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Federal Price Gouging Prevention Act: H.R. 1252, amended, to protect consumers from price-